

THE FALCON FLYER

September 14, 2009



Dear Floral Families,

As we enter mid-September, the excitement of a new school year is still with us, yet we've begun to develop a rhythm and sense of normalcy in classrooms and as a school. We continue to focus on building routines and practicing those that we know, while already digging deep into new academic learning. Our teachers and students are hard at work completing reading and writing assessments, and we are soon approaching the end of our first math unit already! This Friday afternoon, we have our first All-School write, a time once a month when every student at Floral Street focuses on writing together.

Last Friday we came together for our first All-School Meeting, always a highlight of the month. These meetings carry important symbolic value towards building community and our core value of *working together* – the sight and sound of 750 students singing and celebrating our community in unison is an amazing thing to witness! All-School Meeting is also an important learning opportunity, as we introduce and reinforce concepts that are important to the whole community. This month was no different, as we stressed the importance of **being a good student, a good friend, and a good citizen.**

This week we continue to discuss our FACTS and CARES acronyms – our focus concepts for this week are **Attitude** and **Assertion**. We hope that by the end of the week that your child can provide you clear explanation of how these ideas contribute to success!

Todd Curtis
Principal

Lisa McCubrey
Assistant Principal

Important Notes:

School Council

School Council is an important group made up of Floral Street School parents, teachers and administrators, and a community representative. The School Council is an advisory group to the principal and is responsible for producing the School Improvement Plan each school year. For the 2009-2010 school year, we have one parent vacancies to fill. If you would be interested, please let Todd Curtis know via email by Friday, September 18th.

PTO Notes

Would you like to learn more about the Floral Street School PTO and the opportunities to help in some of the PTO projects that occur through-out the year? Do you have questions about how much time is required and what some of the projects entail? **Please join current members of the PTO for coffee and donuts in the cafeteria on Wednesday, September 30th between 9:30-10:30.** PTO members will answer your questions about opportunities to get involved, typical time commitments, and how the PTO works to support the Floral Street School teachers and staff. If you have young children, please feel free to bring them as well. If you are unable to attend but would like more information, please contact PTO President Lisa Greene at greene6365@townisp.com. Current PTO members include: Lisa Greene, Hannah Kane, Sophia Sweeney, Denise Salmu, Kim Wackell, Jenn Owen, Teri Blum, Jen Mastromatteo, Brenda Buckley, Milissa Pisano, Lee Chipman, and Patti Wolohan.

Today, Monday September 14th, is our kick-off for our fall fundraiser with Meadow Farms. This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year to raise money for student activities and staff requirements. Please support your PTO to support your school! For any questions or concerns, please contact Patti Wolohan at wolohan5@townisp.com or Kim Wackell at kwackell@townisp.com or Brenda Buckley at prbuckley@townisp.com - and thank you!

Curriculum Nights

At the bottom of this notice, you will find the dates for our upcoming Curriculum Nights. These are an important opportunity to strengthen our home-school connection. We hope to see you there and want to make two important notes now:

- Our Curriculum Nights begin at **6:45 pm** so that administrators can provide a brief but broad curriculum overview, allowing teachers to provide more detail in individual presentations. This is an initiative of our School Council, designed to support parents in their understanding of Floral Street School.
- Please make every effort not to bring students or siblings to the Curriculum Nights.

Destination Imagination

If your child likes to CREATE, PERFORM, BUILD, IMAGINE, AND SOLVE CHALLENGES...

Then consider DESTINATION IMAGINATION (www.idodi.org), an international, creative, problem-solving program for students in first grade and up. Teams of up to seven members focus on creating solutions to a challenge designed by the Destination Imagination organization. Program runs from October through March. Teams meet once a week to start. Parent volunteers needed.

There will be an informational meeting for interested parents and children on Sept 17 at 6:45 in the Floral School cafeteria. For more information contact Cindy Tylock at ctylock@verizon.net or 508-842-5862.

Only TWO more Paper Falcon Flyers!

In order to help the environment **and** save on paper and copying costs in a tough budgetary environment, we ask that you subscribe to our school's "list serv" e-mail list. Notices that are created and sent by Floral Street School will also be sent via this e-mail list. **Beginning in October, we will move to electronic-only delivery of the Falcon Flyer (the last paper *Falcon Flyer* will be printed September 28). Please communicate in writing to your child's classroom teacher if you do not have an internet connection.**

In order to get on the list, please go to our homepage at <http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/departments/index.php?fDD=12-0>, click on the "Parents" link on the right-hand side, and select "Join our List Serv".

The Elementary Lunch Menu can be found at any time at:

<http://schools.shrewsbury-ma.gov/departments/division.php?fDD=20-17>

Important Fall Dates:

September 17	School Picture Day
September 22	Grade 1 Curriculum Night, 6:45 – 8:00 pm
September 23	Grade 2 Curriculum Night, 6:45 – 8:00 pm
September 29	Grade 3 Curriculum Night, 6:45 – 8:00 pm

September 30
October 9
October 12
November 3
November 11
November 25-27

Grade 4 Curriculum Night, 6:45 – 8:00 pm
No School – Professional Day
No School – Columbus Day
Parent Conferences (No School)
No School – Veterans’ Day
No School – Thanksgiving Vacation